

CONSUMER PRICE

INDEX

REPORT

OCTOBER 2003

MANITOBA
BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RIGHT ANSWERS
RIGHT NOW

November 19, 2003

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – OCTOBER 2003

PERCENT CHANGE - ALL ITEMS INDEX

OCTOBER 03/OCTOBER 02

OCTOBER 03/SEPTEMBER 03

MANITOBA	1.1	-0.6
CANADA	1.6	-0.2

The Manitoba all items index rose 1.1% in October 2003 compared with October 2002, down from the September annual rate of 1.6%. Canada's annual rate of price increase in October was 1.6%, down from 2.2% in September.

Chart 1 presents a summary of price changes for Manitoba and Canada over the last two years. The method of calculation shown in Chart 1 is the most widely used, and is often referred to by the media as the **"inflation rate"**. It is based on the percent change between the current month and the same month the previous year.

Manitoba's annual inflation rate of 1.1% in October was the second lowest among the provinces, while Alberta once more recorded the highest annual rate, at 1.8%. The Winnipeg all items index was 1.2% in October, down from a. . annual rate of 1.5% in September.

Between October 2002 and October 2003, Manitoba saw lower prices for potatoes, air transportation, beef, non-alcoholic beverages and travel services. These declines were partly offset by increases in natural gas, tobacco products, homeowners' maintenance and repairs, other food preparations as well as restaurant food during the same time period.

On a monthly basis the Manitoba all-items index decreased 0.6% in October, after a 0.6% increase in September. Prices were lower last month for a number of food items including fresh potatoes, ham and bacon as well as non-alcoholic beverages. Decreases were also noted for gasoline and other fuels, women's clothing and travel services. These declines were partly offset by higher prices for beef and pork, restaurant food, athletic footwear, spectator entertainment and homeowners' maintenance and repairs. Overall prices at the national level fell 0.2% in October, after increasing 0.2% in September.

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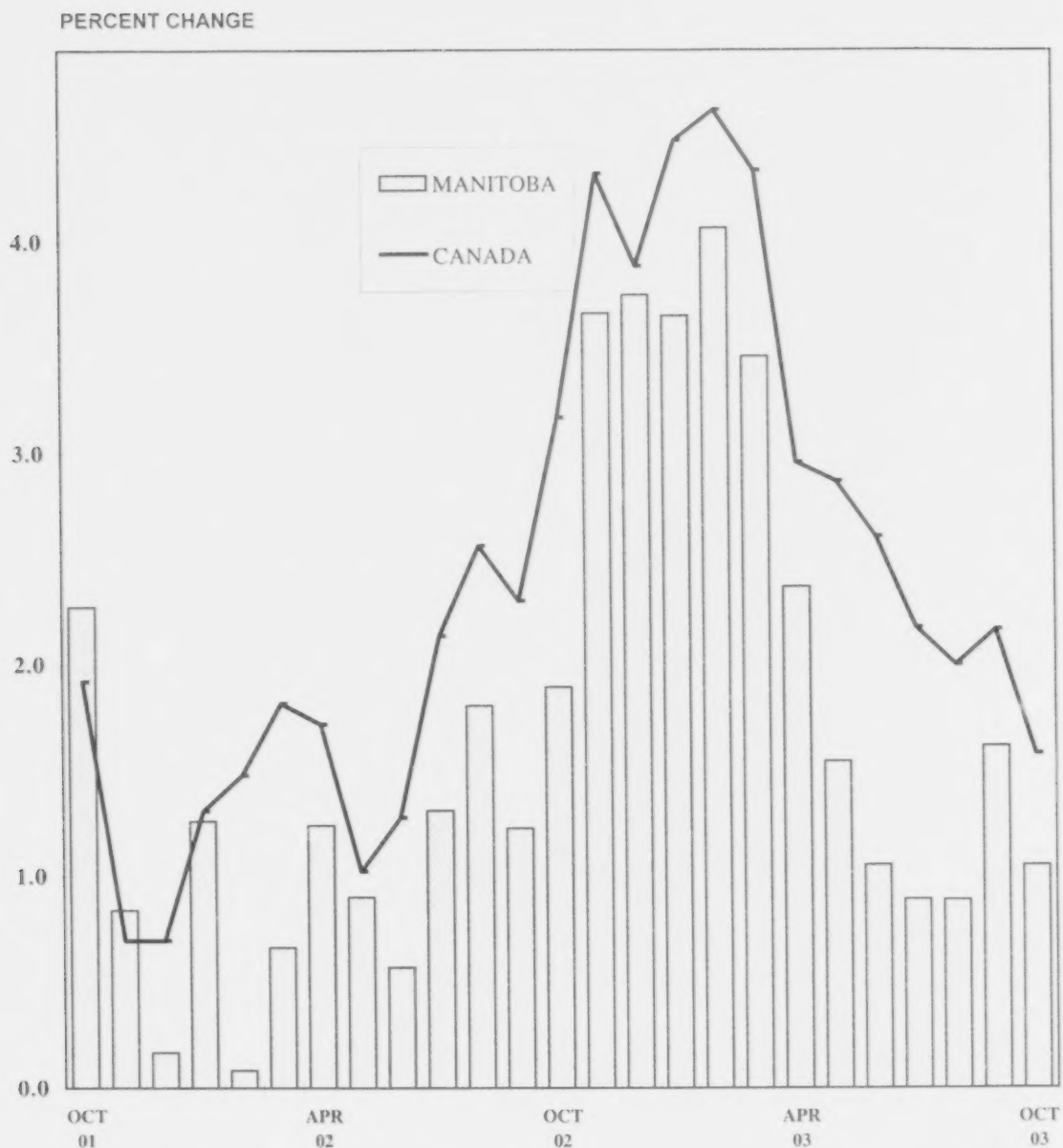
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CHART 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
MONTHLY INFLATION RATE
MANITOBA AND CANADA



DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

November 19, 2003

CHART 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
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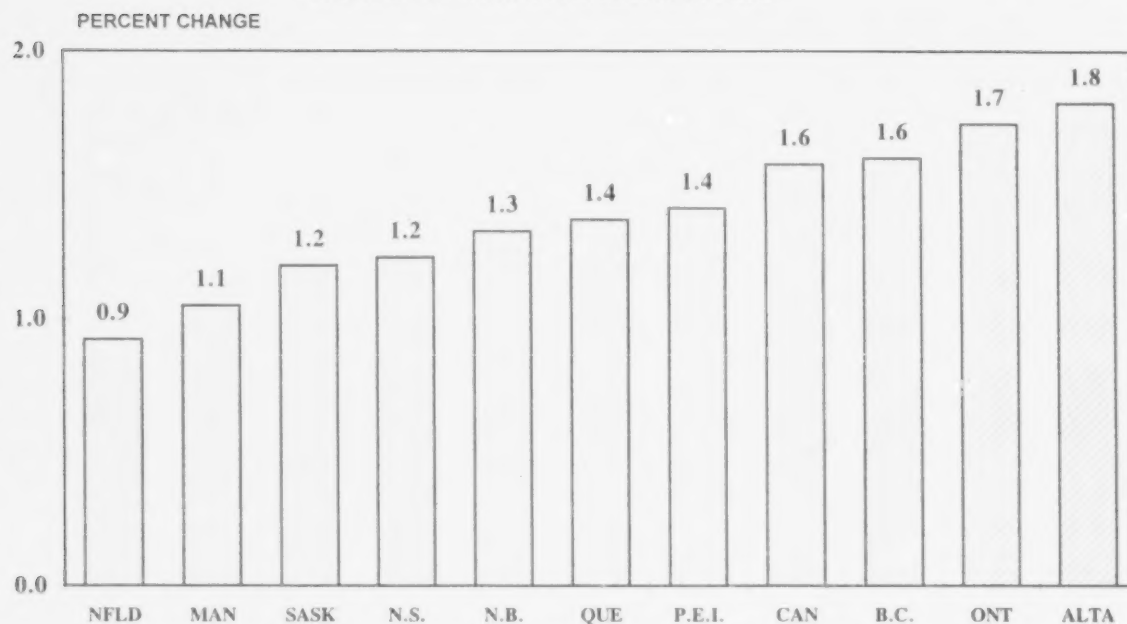
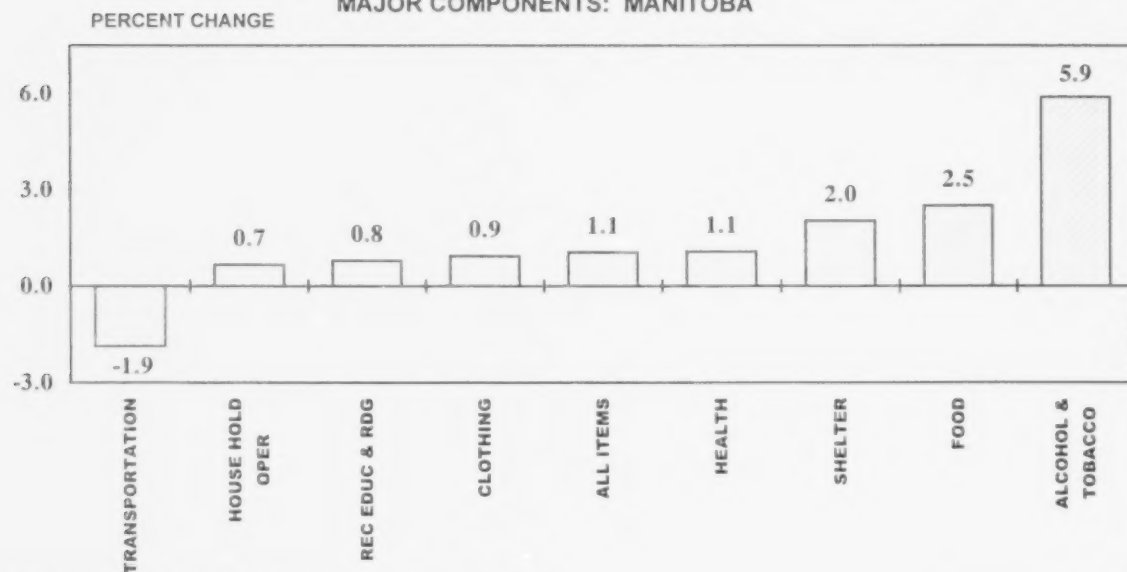


CHART 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
PERCENT CHANGE FROM OCT 02 TO OCT 03
MAJOR COMPONENTS: MANITOBA



DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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TABLE 1: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR OCTOBER 2003

(1992 = 100)

	MANITOBA					CANADA				
	OCT 03	SEP 03	PERCENT CHANGE	OCT 02	PERCENT CHANGE	OCT 03	SEP 03	PERCENT CHANGE	OCT 02	PERCENT CHANGE
<u>MAIN COMPONENTS:</u>										
ALL ITEMS	125.1	125.9	-0.6	123.9	1.1	122.4	122.7	-0.2	120.5	1.6
FOOD	126.7	126.6	0.1	123.6	2.5	121.1	121.3	-0.2	118.5	2.2
SHELTER	120.5	120.1	0.3	118.1	2.0	118.2	117.9	0.3	115.8	2.1
HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS AND FURNISHINGS	121.3	122.9	-1.3	120.5	0.7	115.1	115.1	0.0	113.9	1.1
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	119.2	119.6	-0.3	118.1	0.9	105.0	105.0	0.0	107.1	-2.0
TRANSPORTATION	131.5	135.2	-2.7	134.0	-1.9	139.7	141.9	-1.6	137.9	1.3
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	122.3	122.7	-0.3	121.0	1.1	117.7	117.6	0.1	116.2	1.3
RECREATION, EDUCATION AND READING	127.1	126.8	0.2	126.1	0.8	128.3	128.9	-0.5	127.7	0.5
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	143.8	144.0	-0.1	135.8	5.9	137.0	137.1	-0.1	131.2	4.4
<u>SPECIAL AGGREGATES:</u>										
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD	124.8	125.8	-0.8	123.8	0.8	122.7	123.1	-0.3	121.0	1.4
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD AND ENERGY	123.7	123.9	-0.2	122.9	0.7	121.1	120.9	0.2	118.9	1.9
ENERGY	135.3	143.8	-5.9	132.3	2.3	137.0	143.4	-4.5	138.4	-1.0
GOODS	121.5	123.4	-1.5	121.1	0.3	116.8	117.9	-0.9	117.3	-0.4
SERVICES	129.1	128.7	0.3	126.8	1.8	128.5	128.1	0.3	124.1	3.5

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

November 19, 2003

TABLE 2: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR OCTOBER 2003

(1992 = 100)

	ALL ITEMS					FOOD				
	OCT 03	SEP 03	PERCENT CHANGE	OCT 02	PERCENT CHANGE	OCT 03	SEP 03	PERCENT CHANGE	OCT 02	PERCENT CHANGE
MANITOBA	125.1	125.9	-0.6	123.8	1.1	126.7	126.6	0.1	123.6	2.5
<u>WESTERN PROVINCES</u>										
SASKATCHEWAN	126.6	127.2	-0.5	125.1	1.2	120.6	120.8	-0.2	117.7	2.5
ALBERTA	129.6	130.1	-0.4	127.3	1.8	121.3	121.4	-0.1	119.2	1.8
BRITISH COLUMBIA	120.6	121.2	-0.5	118.7	1.6	122.3	122.4	-0.1	119.1	2.7
<u>EASTERN PROVINCES</u>										
ONTARIO	123.6	123.9	-0.2	121.5	1.7	120.9	121.3	-0.3	118.9	1.7
QUEBEC	118.3	118.2	0.1	116.7	1.4	121.8	121.5	0.2	118.2	3.0
<u>MARITIME PROVINCES</u>										
NEW BRUNSWICK	122.2	123.0	-0.7	120.6	1.3	120.1	120.7	-0.5	117.2	2.5
NOVA SCOTIA	123.5	124.1	-0.5	122.0	1.2	121.3	121.8	-0.4	118.7	2.2
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	122.0	122.2	-0.2	120.3	1.4	118.2	119.1	-0.8	116.6	1.4
NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR	120.3	121.4	-0.9	119.2	0.9	116.3	117.6	-1.1	115.1	1.0
* MANITOBA RANK			3		2			9		8

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

* Ranking is done in ascending order from the lowest to the highest

November 19, 2003

TABLE 3: PERCENT CHANGE COMPARISONS, MANITOBA AND CANADA

(AS OF OCTOBER 2003)

MAIN COMPONENTS	(1) CHANGE FROM SAME MONTH LAST YEAR		(2) CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE		(3) 12 - MONTH ANNUAL RATE	
	MANITOBA	CANADA	MANITOBA	CANADA	MANITOBA	CANADA
ALL ITEMS	1.1	1.6	0.6	0.7	2.3	3.2
FOOD	2.5	2.2	1.0	-6.6	1.8	1.8
SHELTER	2.0	2.1	2.7	2.1	1.8	3.1
HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS AND FURNISHINGS	0.7	1.1	1.7	1.8	1.2	0.8
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	0.9	-2.0	13.8	14.1	1.7	-1.9
TRANSPORTATION	-1.9	1.3	-5.6	-0.6	2.8	6.8
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	1.1	1.3	2.0	2.8	1.3	1.3
RECREATION, EDUCATION AND READING	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.6	1.1
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	5.9	4.4	0.8	1.2	12.8	12.1
<u>SPECIAL AGGREGATES:</u>						
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD	0.8	1.4	0.6	2.3	2.5	3.4
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD AND ENERGY	0.7	1.9	1.0	2.7	2.0	2.9
ENERGY	2.3	-1.0	0.3	-1.7	6.6	9.2
GOODS	0.3	-0.4	0.3	-2.4	2.7	2.5
SERVICES	1.8	3.5	1.2	3.5	2.0	3.8

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
November 19, 2003

NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO MEASURE THE ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE INFLATION RATE. THE ABOVE TABLE PRESENTS THREE DIFFERENT METHODS:

- (1) THE MOST COMMONLY USED METHOD OF REPORTING THE INFLATION RATE, BASED ON PERCENT CHANGE FROM THE SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO.
- (2) PROVIDES A MEASURE OF THE CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF INFLATION. THE GROWTH RATE OVER THE PRECEDING THREE MONTHS IS CALCULATED AND THEN COMPOUNDED AT AN ANNUAL RATE. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THESE CALCULATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED.
- (3) COMPARES THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING THIS MONTH WITH THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ONE YEAR EARLIER.

TABLE 4: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR OCTOBER 2003: ALL ITEMS

(1992 = 100)

	<u>OCT 03</u>	<u>SEP 03</u>	<u>PERCENT CHANGE</u>	<u>(1) CHANGE FROM SAME MONTH LAST YEAR</u>	<u>(2) 12 - MONTH ANNUAL RATE</u>
WINNIPEG	125.4	126.1	-0.6	1.2	2.3
<u>WESTERN CITIES</u>					
REGINA	127.6	128.2	-0.5	1.4	2.8
SASKATOON	125.9	126.3	-0.3	1.2	2.7
CALGARY	130.2	130.5	-0.2	1.6	4.8
EDMONTON	128.1	128.9	-0.6	2.0	6.5
VANCOUVER	121.3	121.8	-0.4	1.4	2.3
VICTORIA	120.4	120.8	-0.3	1.8	2.5
<u>EASTERN CITIES</u>					
THUNDER BAY	122.1	122.6	-0.4	1.2	2.6
TORONTO	124.5	124.8	-0.2	2.3	3.2
OTTAWA	125.1	125.5	-0.3	1.5	2.7
MONTREAL	118.4	118.3	0.1	1.3	2.7
QUEBEC	119.1	118.9	0.2	1.4	2.9
<u>MARITIME CITIES</u>					
SAINT JOHN, N.B.	122.1	122.5	-0.3	1.5	4.2
HALIFAX	122.8	123.2	-0.3	1.4	3.8
CHARLOTTETOWN	121.1	121.2	-0.1	1.3	3.9
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD	120.4	121.4	-0.8	0.9	3.5
* WINNIPEG RANK (OUT OF 16 CITIES)			3	4	1

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

* Ranking is done in ascending order from the lowest to the highest

November 19, 2003

NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO MEASURE THE ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE INFLATION RATE. THE ABOVE TABLE PRESENTS TWO DIFFERENT METHODS:

- (1) THE MOST COMMONLY USED METHOD OF REPORTING THE INFLATION RATE, BASED ON PERCENT CHANGE FROM THE SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO.
- (2) COMPARES THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING THIS MONTH WITH THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ONE YEAR EARLIER.



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NOVEMBER 2003

MANITOBA
BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RIGHT ANSWERS

RIGHT NOW

December 19, 2003

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – NOVEMBER 2003

PERCENT CHANGE - ALL ITEMS INDEX

	<u>NOVEMBER 03/NOVEMBER 02</u>	<u>NOVEMBER 03/OCTOBER 03</u>
MANITOBA	0.6	0.2
CANADA	1.6	0.2

The Manitoba all items index rose 0.6% in November 2003 compared with November 2002, down from the October annual rate of 1.1%. Canada's annual rate of price increase in November was 1.6%, unchanged from its October rate.

Chart 1 presents a summary of price changes for Manitoba and Canada over the last two years. The method of calculation shown in Chart 1 is the most widely used, and is often referred to by the media as the **"inflation rate"**. It is based on the percent change between the current month and the same month the previous year.

Manitoba's annual inflation rate of 0.6% in November was the lowest among the provinces, while Ontario recorded the highest annual rate, at 1.7%. The Winnipeg all items index was 0.6% in November, down from an annual rate of 1.2% in October.

Between November 2002 and November 2003, Manitoba saw lower prices for gasoline, potatoes, air transportation and travel services, non-alcoholic beverages, women's clothing and athletic footwear. These declines were offset by increases in natural gas, tobacco products, restaurant food, homeowners' maintenance and repairs, automobile maintenance and repairs, and rent during the same time period.

On a monthly basis the Manitoba all-items index increased 0.2% in November, after a 0.6% decrease in October. Prices were lower last month for gasoline and natural gas, air transportation and travel services, women and men's clothing as well as athletic footwear. These declines were offset by higher prices for beef and pork (ham and bacon), potatoes, other fresh vegetables, preserved fruit and fruit preparations, automobile maintenance and repairs, and personal care services. Overall prices at the national level rose 0.2% in November, after decreasing 0.2% in October.

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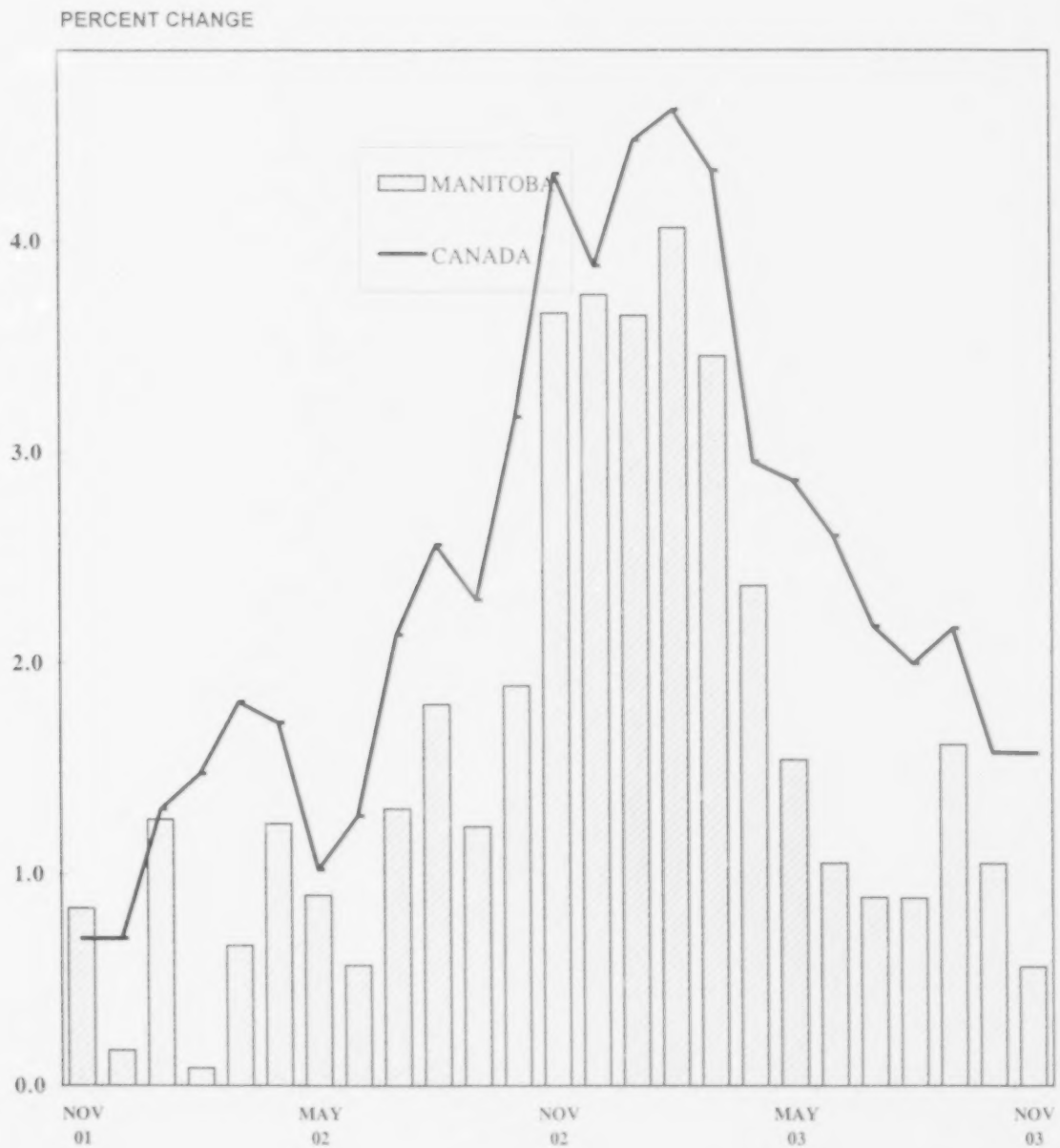
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TABLE 4 - CONSUMER PRICE INDICES: CITIES

CHART 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
MONTHLY INFLATION RATE
MANITOBA AND CANADA



DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

December 19, 2003

CHART 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
PERCENT CHANGE FROM NOV 02 TO NOV 03
ALL ITEMS: CANADA AND PROVINCES

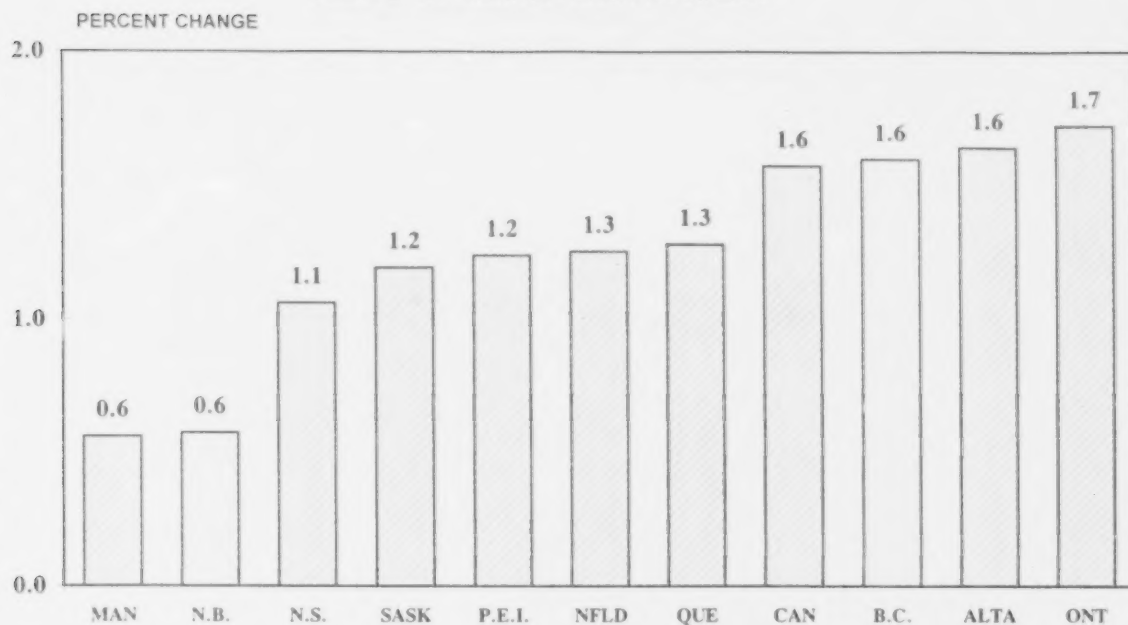
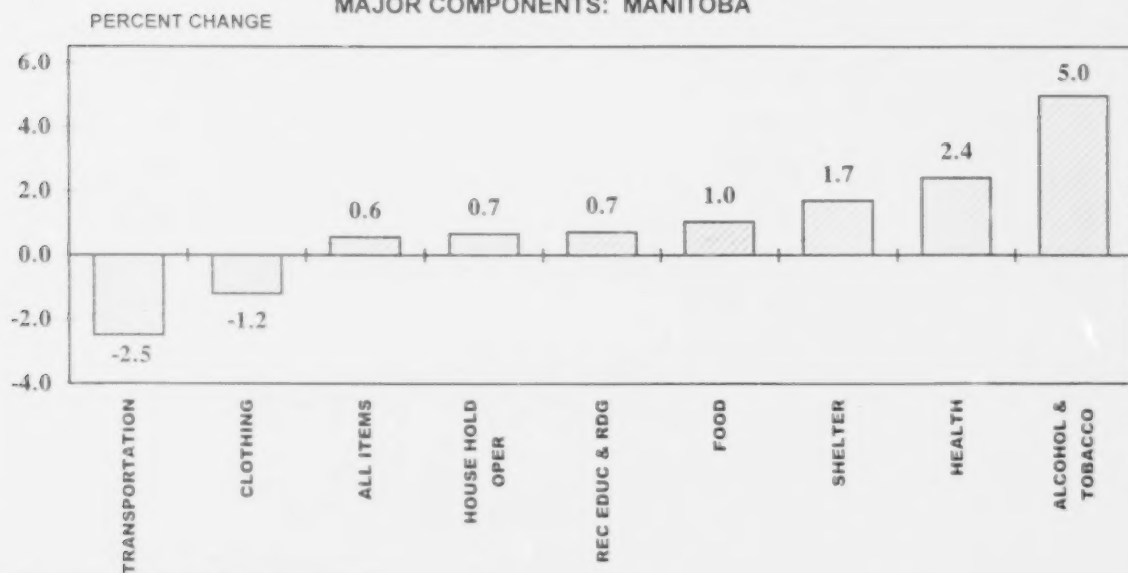


CHART 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
PERCENT CHANGE FROM NOV 02 TO NOV 03
MAJOR COMPONENTS: MANITOBA



DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

December 19, 2003

TABLE 1: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR NOVEMBER 2003

(1992 = 100)

	MANITOBA					CANADA				
	NOV 03	OCT 03	PERCENT CHANGE	NOV 02	PERCENT CHANGE	NOV 03	OCT 03	PERCENT CHANGE	NOV 02	PERCENT CHANGE
<u>MAIN COMPONENTS:</u>										
ALL ITEMS	125.3	125.1	0.2	124.6	0.6	122.7	122.4	0.2	120.8	1.6
FOOD	127.4	126.7	0.6	126.1	1.0	122.3	121.1	1.0	120.4	1.6
SHELTER	120.3	120.5	-0.2	118.3	1.7	118.3	118.2	0.1	115.7	2.2
HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS AND FURNISHINGS	121.3	121.3	0.0	120.5	0.7	114.9	115.1	-0.2	114.0	0.8
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	115.4	119.2	-3.2	116.8	-1.2	104.2	105.0	-0.8	105.2	-1.0
TRANSPORTATION	133.2	131.5	1.3	136.6	-2.5	140.9	139.7	0.9	139.2	1.2
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	123.7	122.3	1.1	120.8	2.4	118.0	117.7	0.3	116.2	1.5
RECREATION, EDUCATION AND READING	126.4	127.1	-0.6	125.5	0.7	127.5	128.3	-0.6	126.7	0.6
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	143.8	143.8	0.0	137.0	5.0	137.6	137.0	0.4	131.9	4.3
<u>SPECIAL AGGREGATES:</u>										
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD	124.8	124.8	0.0	124.3	0.4	122.8	122.7	0.1	121.0	1.5
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD AND ENERGY	124.0	123.7	0.2	123.1	0.7	121.4	121.1	0.2	119.2	1.8
ENERGY	132.2	135.3	-2.3	135.2	-2.2	135.4	137.0	-1.2	136.2	-0.6
GOODS	121.8	121.5	0.2	122.7	-0.7	117.5	116.8	0.6	117.8	-0.3
SERVICES	129.0	129.1	-0.1	126.8	1.7	128.4	128.5	-0.1	124.4	3.2

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

December 19, 2003

TABLE 2: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR NOVEMBER 2003

(1992 = 100)

	ALL ITEMS					FOOD				
	NOV 03	OCT 03	PERCENT CHANGE	NOV 02	PERCENT CHANGE	NOV 03	OCT 03	PERCENT CHANGE	NOV 02	PERCENT CHANGE
MANITOBA	125.3	125.1	0.2	124.6	0.6	127.4	126.7	0.6	126.1	1.0
<u>WESTERN PROVINCES</u>										
SASKATCHEWAN	127.1	126.6	0.4	125.6	1.2	121.8	120.6	1.0	119.1	2.3
ALBERTA	130.0	129.6	0.3	127.9	1.6	122.6	121.3	1.1	120.9	1.4
BRITISH COLUMBIA	120.8	120.6	0.2	118.9	1.6	123.5	122.3	1.0	121.0	2.1
<u>EASTERN PROVINCES</u>										
ONTARIO	123.9	123.6	0.2	121.8	1.7	121.8	120.9	0.7	120.9	0.7
QUEBEC	118.6	118.3	0.3	117.1	1.3	123.6	121.8	1.5	120.2	2.8
<u>MARITIME PROVINCES</u>										
NEW BRUNSWICK	122.2	122.2	0.0	121.5	0.6	121.0	120.1	0.7	118.5	2.1
NOVA SCOTIA	123.8	123.5	0.2	122.5	1.1	122.5	121.3	1.0	120.2	1.9
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	122.5	122.0	0.4	121.0	1.2	119.8	118.2	1.4	117.9	1.6
NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR	121.1	120.3	0.7	119.6	1.3	118.4	116.3	1.8	116.1	2.0
* MANITOBA RANK			2		1			1		2

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

* Ranking is done in ascending order from the lowest to the highest

December 19, 2003

TABLE 3: PERCENT CHANGE COMPARISONS, MANITOBA AND CANADA

(AS OF NOVEMBER 2003)

MAIN COMPONENTS	(1) CHANGE FROM SAME MONTH LAST YEAR		(2) CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE		(3) 12 - MONTH ANNUAL RATE	
	MANITOBA	CANADA	MANITOBA	CANADA	MANITOBA	CANADA
ALL ITEMS	0.6	1.6	0.3	0.7	2.1	2.9
FOOD	1.0	1.6	5.2	0.7	1.6	1.8
SHELTER	1.7	2.2	0.3	2.1	1.8	3.0
HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS AND FURNISHINGS	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.7
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	-1.2	-1.0	-7.9	9.8	1.3	-1.9
TRANSPORTATION	-2.5	1.2	-2.1	-4.1	2.0	6.1
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	2.4	1.5	5.3	2.1	1.4	1.4
RECREATION, EDUCATION AND READING	0.7	0.6	-1.9	-1.6	1.5	0.9
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	5.0	4.3	-1.1	1.5	11.6	11.0
<u>SPECIAL AGGREGATES:</u>						
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD	0.4	1.5	-1.0	0.3	2.2	3.1
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD AND ENERGY	0.7	1.8	1.3	3.0	1.8	2.7
ENERGY	-2.2	-0.6	-18.4	-20.7	5.6	7.9
GOODS	-0.7	-0.3	-0.7	-1.4	2.2	2.1
SERVICES	1.7	3.2	0.9	2.2	1.9	3.7

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
December 19, 2003

NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO MEASURE THE ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE INFLATION RATE. THE ABOVE TABLE PRESENTS THREE DIFFERENT METHODS:

- (1) THE MOST COMMONLY USED METHOD OF REPORTING THE INFLATION RATE, BASED ON PERCENT CHANGE FROM THE SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO.
- (2) PROVIDES A MEASURE OF THE CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF INFLATION. THE GROWTH RATE OVER THE PRECEDING THREE MONTHS IS CALCULATED AND THEN COMPOUNDED AT AN ANNUAL RATE. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THESE CALCULATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED.
- (3) COMPARES THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING THIS MONTH WITH THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ONE YEAR EARLIER.

TABLE 4: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR NOVEMBER 2003: ALL ITEMS

(1992 = 100)

	NOV 03	OCT 03	PERCENT CHANGE	(1) CHANGE FROM SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	(2) 12 - MONTH ANNUAL RATE
WINNIPEG	125.4	125.4	0.0	0.6	2.0
<u>WESTERN CITIES</u>					
REGINA	128.2	127.6	0.5	1.4	2.6
SASKATOON	126.4	125.9	0.4	1.1	2.4
CALGARY	130.7	130.2	0.4	1.2	4.1
EDMONTON	128.5	128.1	0.3	2.0	5.9
VANCOUVER	121.4	121.3	0.1	1.4	2.1
VICTORIA	120.5	120.4	0.1	1.6	2.4
<u>EASTERN CITIES</u>					
THUNDER BAY	122.4	122.1	0.2	1.3	2.3
TORONTO	125.0	124.5	0.4	2.4	3.1
OTTAWA	125.6	125.1	0.4	1.7	2.5
MONTREAL	118.7	118.4	0.3	1.4	2.5
QUEBEC	119.4	119.1	0.3	1.4	2.7
<u>MARITIME CITIES</u>					
SAINT JOHN, N.B.	122.0	122.1	-0.1	0.8	3.8
HALIFAX	123.0	122.8	0.2	1.2	3.5
CHARLOTTETOWN	121.6	121.1	0.4	1.2	3.6
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD	121.0	120.4	0.5	1.2	3.1
* WINNIPEG RANK (OUT OF 16 CITIES)			2	1	1

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

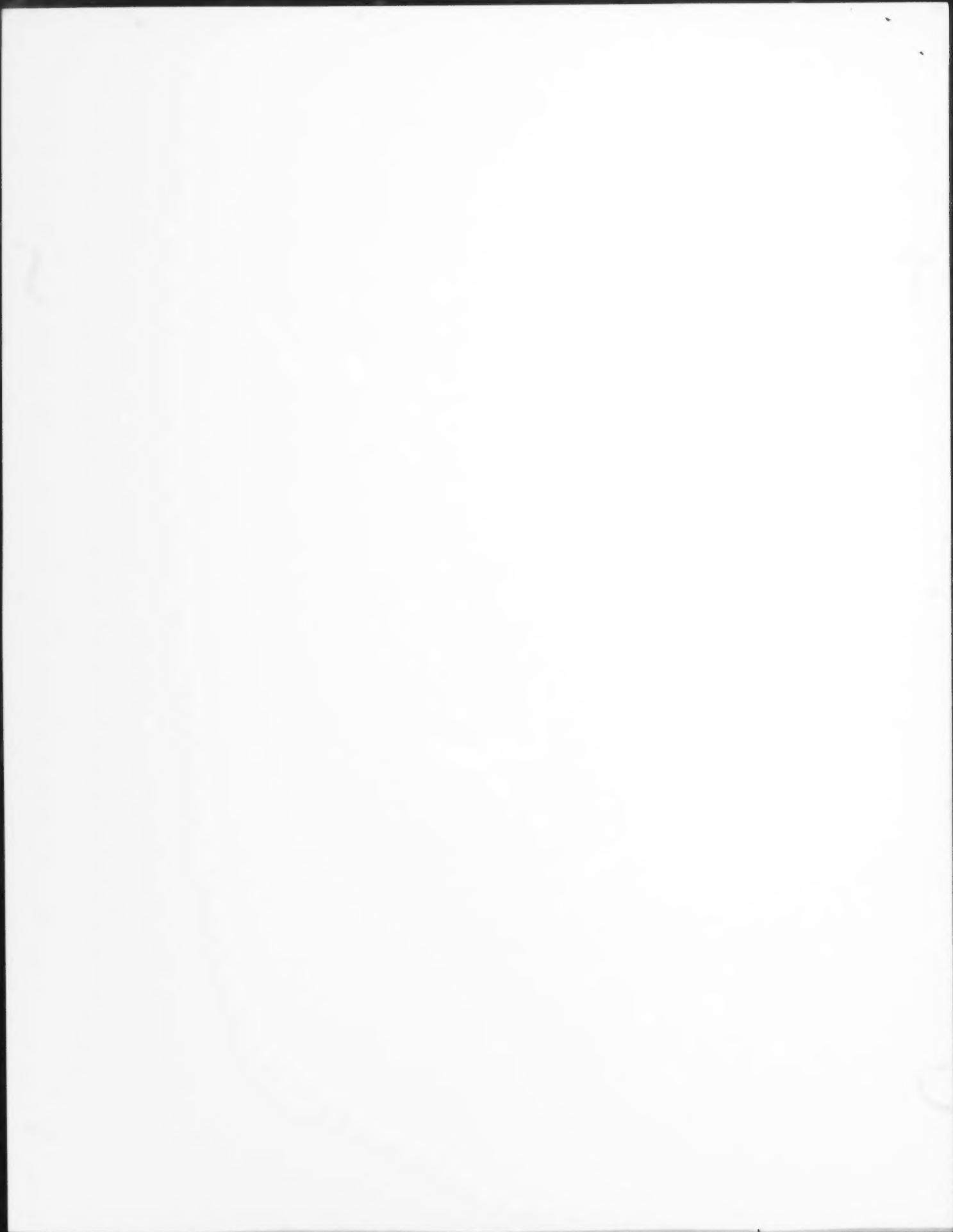
MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

* Ranking is done in ascending order from the lowest to the highest

December 19, 2003

NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO MEASURE THE ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE INFLATION RATE. THE ABOVE TABLE PRESENTS TWO DIFFERENT METHODS:

- (1) THE MOST COMMONLY USED METHOD OF REPORTING THE INFLATION RATE, BASED ON PERCENT CHANGE FROM THE SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO.
- (2) COMPARES THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING THIS MONTH WITH THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ONE YEAR EARLIER.



CONSUMER PRICE

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REPORT

DECEMBER 2003

MANITOBA
BUREAU OF STATISTICS

RIGHT ANSWERS

RIGHT NOW

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – DECEMBER 2003

PERCENT CHANGE - ALL ITEMS INDEX

DECEMBER 03/DECEMBER 02

DECEMBER 03/NOVEMBER 03

MANITOBA	0.8	0.2
CANADA	2.0	0.1

The Manitoba all items index rose 0.8% in December 2003 compared with December 2002, up from the November annual rate of 0.6%. Canada's annual rate of price increase in December was 2.0%, up from its November rate of 1.6%.

Chart 1 presents a summary of price changes for Manitoba and Canada over the last two years. The method of calculation shown in Chart 1 is the most widely used, and is often referred to by the media as the **"inflation rate"**. It is based on the percent change between the current month and the same month the previous year.

Manitoba's annual inflation rate of 0.8% in December was the second lowest among the provinces, while Ontario recorded the highest annual rate, at 3.0%. The Winnipeg all items index was 0.8% in December, up from an annual rate of 0.6% in November.

Between December 2002 and December 2003, Manitoba saw lower prices for automobile insurance premiums and travel services, beef, tomatoes, pet food and supplies, books and other printed matter, as well as men's clothing. These declines were offset by increases in tobacco products, natural gas, restaurant food, replacement cost, homeowners' maintenance and repairs, automobile maintenance and repairs, and rent during the same time period.

On a monthly basis the Manitoba all-items index increased 0.2% in December, after a 0.2% increase in November. Prices were lower last month for travel services and gasoline, women and men's clothing, poultry meat, ham and bacon, as well as books and other printed matter. These declines were offset by higher prices for air transportation, other food preparations, other fresh fruit and other fresh vegetables, restaurant food, athletic footwear, and paper, plastic and foil supplies. Overall prices at the national level rose 0.1% in December, after increasing 0.2% in November.

For the 2003 calendar year, Manitoba recorded a CPI increase of 1.8%, well below the Canada increase of 2.8%. A key reason for the relatively low increase in CPI for Manitoba is the auto-insurance premiums. In 2003, Manitoba had almost no increase in auto-insurance premiums at 0.3% compared to a national average of 22.1%.

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CHART 2 - CONSUMER PRICE INDICES, ALL ITEMS: CANADA AND PROVINCES

CHART 3 - CONSUMER PRICE INDICES, MAJOR COMPONENTS: MANITOBA

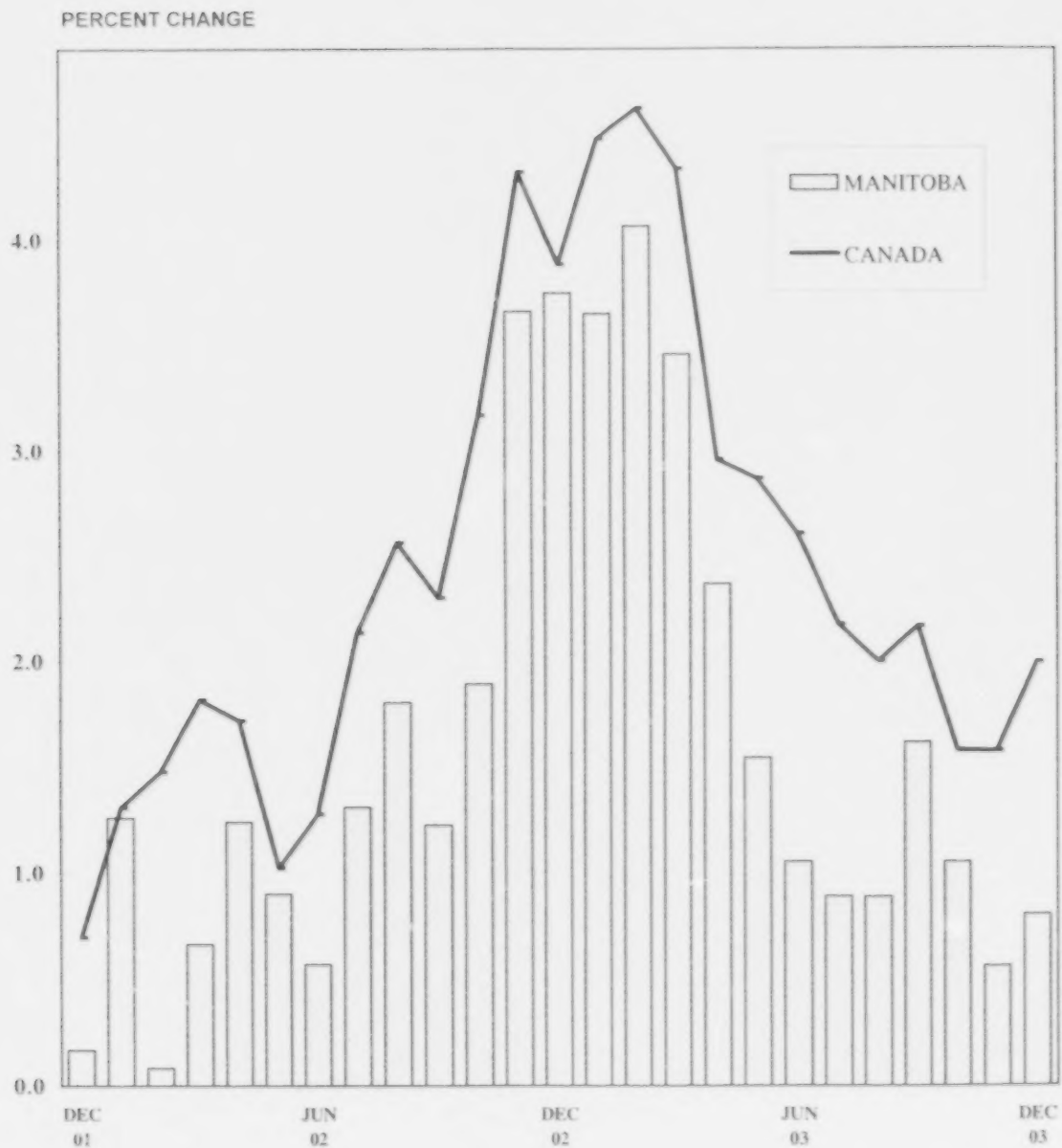
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CHART 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
MONTHLY INFLATION RATE
MANITOBA AND CANADA



DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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CHART 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
PERCENT CHANGE FROM DEC 02 TO DEC 03
ALL ITEMS: CANADA AND PROVINCES

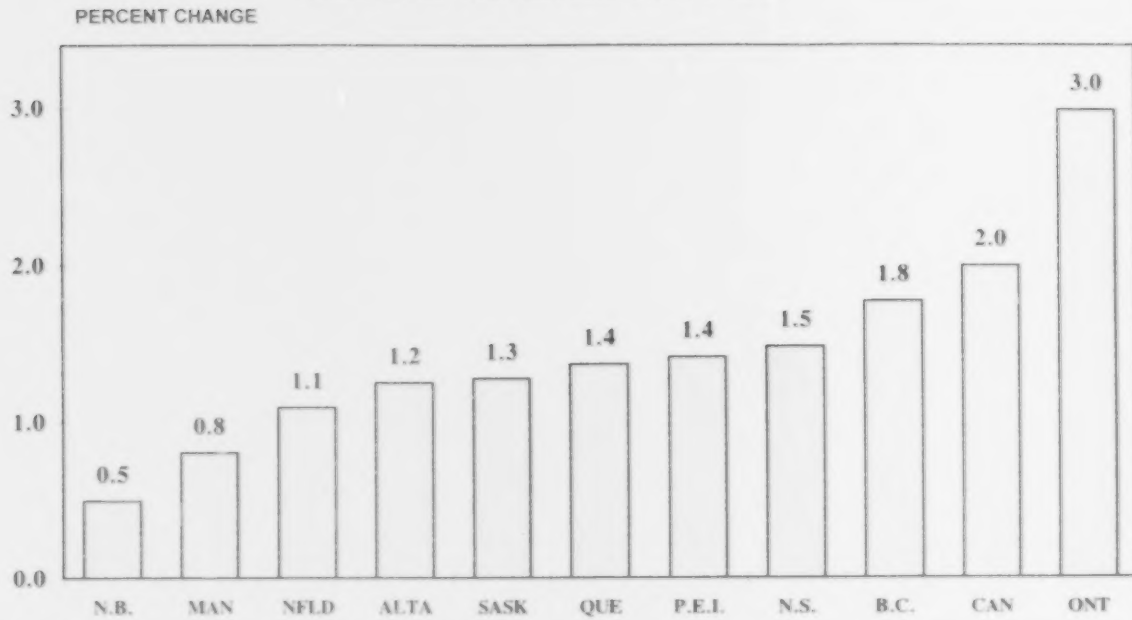
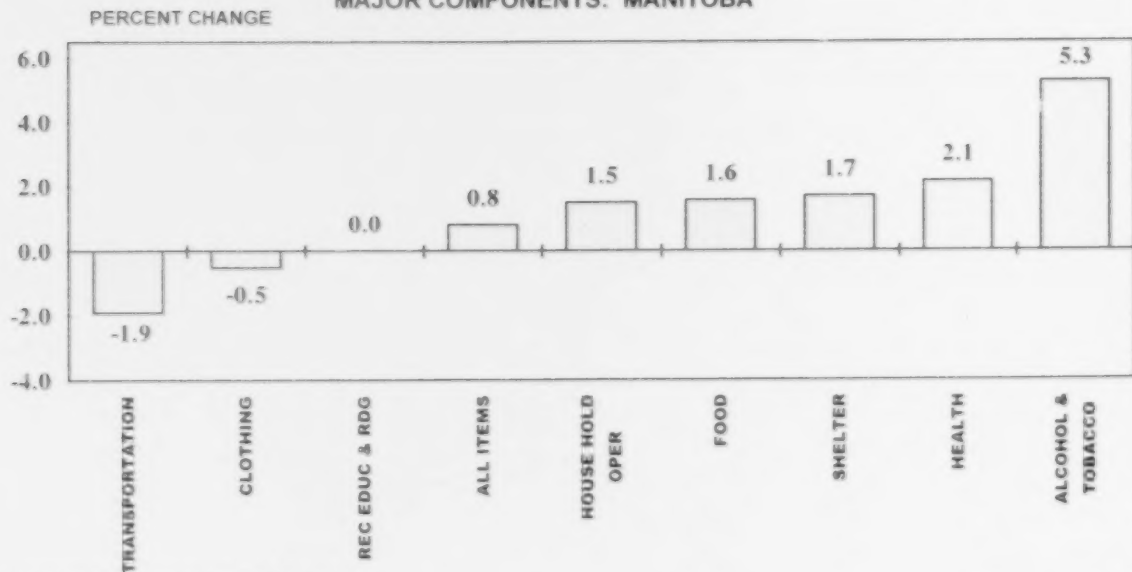


CHART 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
PERCENT CHANGE FROM DEC 02 TO DEC 03
MAJOR COMPONENTS: MANITOBA



DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA
MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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TABLE 1: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR DECEMBER 2003

(1992 = 100)

	MANITOBA					CANADA				
	DEC 03	NOV 03	PERCENT CHANGE	DEC 02	PERCENT CHANGE	DEC 03	NOV 03	PERCENT CHANGE	DEC 02	PERCENT CHANGE
<u>MAIN COMPONENTS:</u>										
ALL ITEMS	125.6	125.3	0.2	124.6	0.8	122.8	122.7	0.1	120.4	2.0
FOOD	129.7	127.4	1.8	127.7	1.6	123.4	122.3	0.9	121.2	1.8
SHELTER	120.3	120.3	0.0	118.3	1.7	118.8	118.3	0.4	114.0	4.2
HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS AND FURNISHINGS	122.4	121.3	0.9	120.6	1.5	114.9	114.9	0.0	114.0	0.8
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	114.2	115.4	-1.0	114.8	-0.5	102.5	104.2	-1.6	102.3	0.2
TRANSPORTATION	132.9	133.2	-0.2	135.5	-1.9	140.8	140.9	-0.1	140.1	0.5
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	123.6	123.7	-0.1	121.0	2.1	117.6	118.0	-0.3	116.1	1.3
RECREATION, EDUCATION AND READING	125.6	126.4	-0.6	125.6	0.0	126.5	127.5	-0.8	126.0	0.4
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	144.2	143.8	0.3	137.0	5.3	140.1	137.6	1.8	131.6	6.5
<u>SPECIAL AGGREGATES:</u>										
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD	124.7	124.8	-0.1	124.0	0.6	122.7	122.8	-0.1	120.2	2.1
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD AND ENERGY	123.9	124.0	-0.1	123.3	0.5	121.2	121.4	-0.2	119.3	1.6
ENERGY	131.4	132.2	-0.6	130.1	1.0	136.2	135.4	0.6	127.6	6.7
GOODS	122.3	121.8	0.4	122.3	0.0	117.6	117.5	0.1	116.1	1.3
SERVICES	129.1	129.0	0.1	127.2	1.5	128.6	128.4	0.2	125.2	2.7

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

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TABLE 2: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR DECEMBER 2003

(1992 = 100)

	ALL ITEMS					FOOD				
	DEC 03	NOV 03	PERCENT CHANGE	DEC 02	PERCENT CHANGE	DEC 03	NOV 03	PERCENT CHANGE	DEC 02	PERCENT CHANGE
MANITOBA	125.6	125.3	0.2	124.6	0.8	129.7	127.4	1.8	127.7	1.6
<u>WESTERN PROVINCES</u>										
SASKATCHEWAN	127.0	127.1	-0.1	125.4	1.3	124.2	121.8	2.0	120.8	2.8
ALBERTA	129.9	130.0	-0.1	128.3	1.2	124.2	122.6	1.3	122.8	1.1
BRITISH COLUMBIA	120.9	120.8	0.1	118.8	1.8	124.4	123.5	0.7	121.7	2.2
<u>EASTERN PROVINCES</u>										
ONTARIO	124.2	123.9	0.2	120.6	3.0	123.3	121.8	1.2	121.8	1.2
QUEBEC	118.6	118.6	0.0	117.0	1.4	124.0	123.6	0.3	120.7	2.7
<u>MARITIME PROVINCES</u>										
NEW BRUNSWICK	122.0	122.2	-0.2	121.4	0.5	120.6	121.0	-0.3	118.4	1.9
NOVA SCOTIA	123.5	123.8	-0.2	121.7	1.5	122.1	122.5	-0.3	120.0	1.8
PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND	122.0	122.5	-0.4	120.3	1.4	119.8	119.8	0.0	118.4	1.2
NEWFOUNDLAND/LABRADOR	120.3	121.1	-0.7	119.0	1.1	116.6	118.4	-1.5	114.3	2.0
* MANITOBA RANK			9		2			9		4

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

* Ranking is done in ascending order from the lowest to the highest

January 22, 2004

TABLE 3: PERCENT CHANGE COMPARISONS, MANITOBA AND CANADA

(AS OF DECEMBER 2003)

MAIN COMPONENTS	(1) CHANGE FROM SAME MONTH LAST YEAR		(2) CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF CHANGE		(3) 12 - MONTH ANNUAL RATE	
	MANITOBA	CANADA	MANITOBA	CANADA	MANITOBA	CANADA
ALL ITEMS	0.8	2.0	-0.9	0.3	1.8	2.8
FOOD	1.6	1.8	10.2	7.1	1.5	1.7
SHELTER	1.7	4.2	0.7	3.1	1.9	3.3
HOUSEHOLD OPERATIONS AND FURNISHINGS	1.5	0.8	-1.6	-0.7	1.1	0.7
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	-0.5	0.2	-16.9	-9.2	0.8	-1.8
TRANSPORTATION	-1.9	0.5	-6.6	-3.1	1.3	5.2
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	2.1	1.3	3.0	0.0	1.5	1.4
RECREATION, EDUCATION AND READING	0.0	0.4	-3.7	-7.2	1.2	0.8
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	5.3	6.5	0.6	9.0	10.5	10.1
<u>SPECIAL AGGREGATES:</u>						
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD	0.6	2.1	-3.5	-1.3	1.9	3.0
ALL ITEMS EXCL. FOOD AND ENERGY	0.5	1.6	0.0	1.0	1.6	2.5
ENERGY	1.0	6.7	-30.3	-18.6	4.9	7.9
GOODS	0.0	1.3	-3.5	-1.0	1.8	1.9
SERVICES	1.5	2.7	1.2	1.6	1.9	3.6

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS
January 22, 2004

NOTE: THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO MEASURE THE ANNUAL PERCENT CHANGE OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS THE INFLATION RATE. THE ABOVE TABLE PRESENTS THREE DIFFERENT METHODS:

- (1) THE MOST COMMONLY USED METHOD OF REPORTING THE INFLATION RATE, BASED ON PERCENT CHANGE FROM THE SAME MONTH ONE YEAR AGO.
- (2) PROVIDES A MEASURE OF THE CURRENT ANNUAL RATE OF INFLATION. THE GROWTH RATE OVER THE PRECEDING THREE MONTHS IS CALCULATED AND THEN COMPOUNDED AT AN ANNUAL RATE. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THESE CALCULATIONS HAVE NOT BEEN SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED.
- (3) COMPARES THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING THIS MONTH WITH THE AVERAGE OF THE 12 MONTHS ENDING ONE YEAR EARLIER.

TABLE 4: CONSUMER PRICE INDICES FOR DECEMBER 2003: ALL ITEMS

(1992 = 100)

	DEC 03	NOV 03	PERCENT CHANGE	(1) CHANGE FROM SAME MONTH LAST YEAR	(2) 12 - MONTH ANNUAL RATE
WINNIPEG	125.7	125.4	0.2	0.8	1.8
<u>WESTERN CITIES</u>					
REGINA	127.9	128.2	-0.2	1.3	2.3
SASKATOON	126.1	126.4	-0.2	1.1	2.2
CALGARY	130.7	130.7	0.0	1.3	3.5
EDMONTON	128.4	128.5	-0.1	1.3	5.3
VANCOUVER	121.6	121.4	0.2	1.8	2.0
VICTORIA	120.7	120.5	0.2	1.9	2.2
<u>EASTERN CITIES</u>					
THUNDER BAY	122.6	122.4	0.2	2.8	2.3
TORONTO	125.4	125.0	0.3	2.6	3.0
OTTAWA	125.8	125.6	0.2	2.8	2.5
MONTREAL	118.7	118.7	0.0	1.4	2.4
QUEBEC	119.4	119.4	0.0	1.5	2.5
<u>MARITIME CITIES</u>					
SAINT JOHN, N.B.	121.8	122.0	-0.2	0.7	3.4
HALIFAX	122.7	123.0	-0.2	1.6	3.2
CHARLOTTETOWN	121.1	121.6	-0.4	1.3	3.3
ST. JOHN'S, NFLD	120.3	121.0	-0.6	1.0	2.8
* WINNIPEG RANK (OUT OF 16 CITIES)			15	2	1

DATA SOURCE: STATISTICS CANADA

MANITOBA BUREAU OF STATISTICS

* Ranking is done in ascending order from the lowest to the highest

January 22, 2004

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